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THE NICK THIMMESCH COLUMN

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SEN. CHURCH, ALL POLITICIANS AREN'T UNTRUSTWORTHY

by Nick Thimmesch

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WASHINGTON--It's hard to buy Sen. Frank Church's
(D-Ida.) argument that George Bush, our man in Peking, should
not become CIA director simply because he's a politician and
can't be trusted to perform with true independence.

Sen. Church, a politician, is in charge of the
investigation of the CIA and loudly proclaims (ital) his (unital)
independence. Moreover, Church has ambitions to become
President; and in that office, as a politician, he would have
final authority over the CIA. Therefore, could Church be
trusted by his own standard?

The question about Bush should be whether he is
qualified to run our nation's top intelligence agency, and
whether he has the character and reputation to perform
independent of political considerations.

(Paragraph continues)